Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

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TAGS: CI, PFOR, MX

SUBJECT: ADDITIONAL REACTION TO BREAK IN RELATIONS WITH MEXICO

REF: SANTIAGO 7247 NOTAL, MEXICO 9966 NOTAL

- 1. SUMMARY: FON MINISTER ADM CARVAJAL ISSUED STATEMENT NOV 27 REFRAINING FROM DIRECT COMMENT ON GOM DECISION TO BREAK RELATIONS WITH GOC BUT DEPLORING ITS EFFECT ON REGIONAL UNITY. CHIEF OF STATE QINOCHET REPORTEDLY ATTRIBUTED GOM ACTION TO INTERNAL MEXICAN POLITICS. MEANWHILE, EXPECTED ANTI-GOM PRESS BARRAGE HAS BEGUN WITH HEADLINE STORY IN AFTERNOON LA SEGUNDA CLAIMING GOM WILL SPONSOR A CHILEAN GOVERNMENT IN EXILE. END SUMMARY.
- 2. INFORMAL TRANSLATION CARVAJAL STATEMENT FOLLOWS: QUOTE THE GOVERNMENT HAS TAKEN NOTE OF THE UNEXPECTED (INSOLITA) DECISION OF THE GOVERNMENT OF MEXICO TO "CONCLUDE" ITS DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH CHILE. BOTH IN SANTIAGO AND IN MEXICO CITY THIS DECISION WAS COMMUNICATED VERBALLY WITHOUT GIVING ANY REASON FOR IT. THEREFORE, THE GOVERNMENT OF CHILE IS REFRAINING, FOR NOW, FROM SPECULATING ON THE REAL OR APPARENT REASONS FOR THIS ACTION BY THE GOVERNMENT OF MR. ECHEVERRIA. HOWEVER, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CHILE IS CERTAIN THAT THIS UNILATERAL ACTION OF THE GOVERNMENT

OF MEXICO WILL CAUSE SURPRISE AND DISMAY IN THE OTHER LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES SINCE, NOW MORE THAN EVER, THE UNITY AND THE SOLIDARITY OF OUR REGION IS INDISPENSABLE IN VIEW OF THE PROFOUND CRISIS OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY. UNQUOTE.

- 3. UNDER SEC FON RELS COLLADOS IS QUOTED AS STATING GOC HAS BEGUN CONVERSATIONS WITH BRAZIL TO ACT AS PROTECTING POWER FOR GOC IN MEXICO CITY. NO INDICATION OF GOM CHOICE OF PROTECTING POWER IN SANTIAGO. COLLADOS ALSO SAID GOC EMBASSY PERSONNEL IN MEXICO HAVE BEEN INSTRUCTED TO RETURN TO CHILE ASAP. COLLADOS DEPRECATED EFFECT OF BREAK ON COMMERCIAL TIES BETWEEN CHILE AND MEXICO.
- 4. CHIEF OF STATE PINOCHET IS QUOTED AS STATING: "IF THE MEXICAN GOVERNMENT DECICED TO BREAK DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH CHILE, IT IS, I BELIEVE, IN ORDER TO JUSTIFY ITS INTERNAL POLITICS". PRESS QUOTES MIN ECONOMY LENIZ WHO IS PRESENTLY IN MEXICO CITY (REFTEL) AS STATING THAT HE WILL LEAVE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.
- 5. RIGHT-WING, SENSATIONALIST AFTERNOON LA SEGUNDA NOV 27
 HEADLINED ITS STORY ON EVENTS WITH DECLARATION THAT GOM SEEKS
 TO SPONSOR AND THEN RECOGNIZE A "CHILEAN GOVERNMENT IN EXILE"
 COMPOSED OF FIGURES FROM ALLENDE ERA AND HEADED BY FORMER
 FON MINISTER CLODOMIRO ALMEYDA, WHO IS STILL UNDER GOC
 DETENTION. LA SEGUNDA AVERRED THAT GOM IS USING WEST GERMANS
 AS STALKING HORSE TO OBTAIN ALMEYDA'S RELEASE IN RETURN FOR
 GRANTING OF A MAJOR GERMAN CREDIT TO GOC (SANTIAGO 7192 NOTAL).
- 6. COMMENT: LA SEGUNDA'S LINE IS PROBABLY ONLY THE FIRST SALVO OF WHAT WE EXPECT WILL BE A SUSTAINED BARRAGE AGAINST GOM.
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